



S/N 09/863,381

#8
11/6/02
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Robert A. Blanchette et al.
Serial No.: 09/863,381
Filed: May 24, 2001
Title: CULTIVATED AGARWOOD

Examiner: Unknown
Group Art Unit: Unknown
Docket: 600.516US1

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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OCT 31 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Applicant has reviewed the Restriction Requirement mailed November 2, 2002, where the Examiner requested election of one of the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 1-41 (method of making agarwood)
- Group II: Claim 42 (product of agarwood)
- Group III: Claim 43 (product of agarwood)
- Group IV: Claims 44, 46 (method of purifying agarwood resin)
- Group V: Claims 45, 47 (purified resin from agarwood)

Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, the claims of Group I (claims 1-41).

The Restriction Requirement is traversed on the basis that Restriction Requirements are optional in all cases. M.P.E.P. § 803. If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it arguably may include claims to distinct or independent inventions. M.P.E.P. § 803. It is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the claims of Groups I and II can be made without serious burden on the Office. Claims 1-41 (Group I) are directed to a method of making agarwood, and claim 42 (Group II) is directed to a product of agarwood made by this method. Given the close relationship between the subject matter of the claims in these two groups, no additional serious burden results from the search and examination of claims 1-42. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

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The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representative if there are any questions regarding this Response or if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT A. BLANCHETTE ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date 23 October 2002 By Ann S. Viksnins
Ann S. Viksnins
Reg. No. 37,748

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 23rd day of October, 2002.

Name

Dawn M. Poole

Signature

Dawn M. Poole

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